

1 **REMARKS**

2 In response to the final Office Action mailed April 12, 2005, Applicant has amended  
3 the pending claims above, and Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection  
4 of claims 1-11, and consideration of newly added claims 16-18, in view of the above  
5 amendments above and the remarks which follow.

6 This Amendment is accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination, and by  
7 payment of the required RCE fee.

8 This Amendment is also accompanied by an Information Disclosure Statement citing  
9 additional references. A copy of each foreign patent reference cited therein is also enclosed.

10 Within the final Office Action, the Examiner rejected independent claim 1, along with  
11 dependent claims 2-6, under 35 U.S.C. §103 as describing subject matter considered by the  
12 Examiner to differ in only obvious ways from the disclosure in U.S. Patent No. 5,795,188 to  
13 Harwath. The coaxial cable shown in the Harwath patent is corrugated cable having a  
14 corrugated outer conductor 25. Harwath's coaxial cable also includes an inner, hollow  
15 conductor 27, as well as a foam dielectric layer 29 separating outer conductor 25 from inner  
16 conductor 27. Harwath's coaxial connector includes an inner terminal 41 (see Figs. 2 and 6)  
17 that fits inside the hollow inner conductor 27 of the coaxial cable to engage the inner wall 48  
18 thereof. Since Harwath's inner terminal 41 extends inside hollow inner conductor 27 of the  
19 coaxial cable, there is no reason to remove foam dielectric layer 29 from around the end of  
20 hollow inner conductor 27 to achieve electrical contact between inner terminal 41 and inner  
21 conductor 27 of the coaxial cable. Accordingly, in Figs. 1 and 2, Harwath shows foam  
22 dielectric layer 29 being flush with the end of inner conductor 27.

23 In contrast, claim 1 as amended herein recites a method of attaching a coaxial cable to  
24 a coaxial connector which includes the step of: c) removing dielectric from the end portion of  
25 the inner conductor of the coaxial cable to expose the outer surface thereof; and d) engaging  
26 the exposed outer surface of the end portion of the inner conductor with the inner terminal of  
27 the coaxial connector. Harwath fails to disclose or suggest these steps now recited by claim 1  
28 as amended. For these reasons, Applicant's method for attachment of a coaxial cable to a

1 coaxial connector, as recited by amended claim 1, would not have been obvious to those  
2 skilled in the art based upon the teachings of Harwath. Accordingly, claim 1, and dependent  
3 claims 2, 3 and 6, should be considered to be patentably distinct over Harwath.

4 Within the final Office Action, the Examiner also rejected claims 7-11 under 35 U.S.C.  
5 §103 as purportedly being obvious over Harwath. Independent claims 7 and 11 have both  
6 been amended above to state that the outer conductor of the coaxial cable has opposing inner  
7 and outer surfaces, that the first angled contact face of the outer terminal directly engages the  
8 inner surface of the outer conductor of the cable, and that the second angled contact face of the  
9 back nut directly engages the outer surface of the outer conductor of the cable. In contrast,  
10 Harwath's back nut (or as he refers to it, "front housing 62") does not directly engage the outer  
11 surface of outer conductor 25; instead, Harwath relies upon a steel garter spring 85, or a  
12 clamping ring 285, to clamp the outer surface of the outer conductor, thereby adding additional  
13 components to the coaxial connector.

14 Accordingly, Harwath fails to disclose or suggest the subject matter recited by claims 7  
15 and 11. Dependent claims 8, 9, 16 and 17 depend from either claims 7 or 11, and should be  
16 considered patentable for the same reasons. Moreover, claims 16 and 17 further require that  
17 the coaxial connector include an inner terminal to engage an exposed outer surface of the inner  
18 conductor of the cable. As explained above in regard to claim 1, Harwath likewise fails to  
19 teach or suggest this feature added by claims 16 and 17.

20 New claim 18 recites a method wherein the end portion of the outer conductor is  
21 physically deformed to form an enlarged diameter flared portion, after the end of the cable has  
22 been passed through the back nut, and before the back nut is engaged with the outer terminal  
23 of the coaxial connector, in a manner which prevents the back nut from passing back over the  
24 flared portion. Clearly, Harwath fails to teach or suggest such a method.

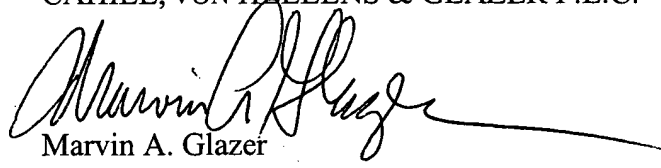
25 Finally, Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of pending claims  
26 12-15. With regard to the Examiner's stated "Reasons for Allowance", Applicant wishes the  
27 record to note that the subject matter of claim 12 is patentably distinguishable from the prior  
28 art of record at least for the reason that Harwath does not expose the outer surface of the

1 hollow inner conductor 27 of the coaxial cable to make electrical contact therewith; instead,  
2 Harwath relies upon engagement with the inside wall 48 of hollow inner conductor 27.

3 In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present  
4 application is now in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly requested.

5  
6 Respectfully submitted,

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